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Vraj Yatra – Part – 5

(Aetha Kadamb, Jatipura, and Puchari)

Aetha Kadamb:

When angry Indra showered heavy rain on Vraj, Shri Krishna came to rescue entire Vraj by lifting Shri Girirajji on his finger and told all Vrajvasis the following words “Aao, Petho.” The meaning of these words is “Come, enter!” From the word ‘Petho’, the village here is known as ‘Petha’. After that all Vrajvasis came under the shelter of Shri Krishna under the Lifted Girirajji. All Vrajvasis along with cows and other cattles, came under the protection of Shri Krishna. From that day, this village is known as ‘Petha’.

Some of the Vrajvasis doubted Shri Krishna about his ability to lift such a giant mountain. To let the vrajvasis realize his swaroop and power, Shri Krishna twisted one of the Kadamb trees. Vrajvasis were astonished to see this legend and began to believe his strength and swaroop. This Kadamb is known as ‘Aetha Kadamb’. This Kadamb Tree is still located at this place. Here, there are Narayan Sarovar, Laxmi Koop, Skhirsagar and Balbhadra Kund and Krishna Kund. There are temples of Shri Baldevji, Shri Chaturbhujrajji and Sakshi Gopalji.

Jatipura (Shri Giriraj):

Anyor:

Shri Krishna advised and recommended to do Shri Govardhan Pooja instead of the Indra Yagya which was being done since long by Vrajvasis. Shri Krishna, in this way stopped the tradition of Indra Yagya being done every year by Shri Nandrajji and Vrajvasis. Shri Krishna showed them the importance and real swaroop of Shri Girirajji and thus removed the Anyashray of Vrajvasis and developed ananyashray on Shri Girirajji (Which is the swaroop of Shri Krishna himself). Thousands of Vrajvasis cooked different and delicious samagris to offer Shri Girirajji as part of Shri Govardhan Pooja. Shri Girirajji started accepting the offerings of Vrajvasis, in the form of Krishna. While accepting the bhoga, Shri Girirajji said ‘Aaan Aur, Aaan Aur!’ means ‘Give more, Give more!’ From these words this village came to be known as ‘Anyor’

On V.S. 1555 Falgun Sud 11, Shri Mahaprabhuji was at Jharkhand. At that time, Shrinathji did agra to apshri to arrive quickly at Shri Girirajji and told apshri that he has appeared at Shri Girirajji. Further Shreenathji ordered to place his own swaroop in a mandir and start the seva. According to the order of Shreenathji, Shri Mahaprabhuji quickly arrived at Shri Girirajji and on Vaishakh Sud 2 evening Shri Mahaprabhuji arrived at Sadu Pandey's house. All Vraj Vasis got engaged in seva of Shri Mahaprabhuji. Next day, on Shri Akshay Tritiya, Shri Mahaprabhuji, after taking bath in Govind Kund, started a journey towards Shrinathji's appearance place through Dadhi Katora. The moment Shri Mahaprabhuji placed apshri's lotus like feet on Shri Girirajji, Shri Girirajji became soft like butter.

Shreenathji came forward to receive Shri Mahaprabhuji and thus both swaroops were very curious and impatient to meet each other. Both swaroopas were so much in Anand that both embraced each other when they met. This darshana is a unique darshan and the vaishnavas those who did this darshan were also fortunate. On the day of Akshay Tritiya, Shri Mahaprabhuji ordered Vrajvasis to build a small Mandir for Shreenathji and further ordered to start the seva. For the seva, Shri Mahaprabhuji ordered Ramdas Chauhan, who was staying at Apsara Kund. Shri Mahaprabhuji taught entire Seva Shringar of Shrinathji to Ramdas Chauhan, and thus the first Mukhiya of Pushti Sampraday is Ramdas Chauhan. For the Kirtanas, Shri Mahaprabhuji ordered Kumbhandas to do Kirtanas. Thus Shri Kumbhandas became the first Kirtaniya of Pushti Sampraday.

There is a bethakji of Shri Mahaprabhuji at the house of Sadu Pandey. The seva of Shri Mahaprabhuji at this bethak is still done by Vanshajias of Sadu Pandey. Here there is a Neem Tree under which Shri Kumbhandasji went to Golok.

Govind Kund:

Going further from the place of Sadu Pandey, there is a beautiful kunda named 'Govind Kund'. Here Indra came in the shelter of Shri Krishna in Saraswat Kalp, after the IndraManbhang Leela. Indra did Govindabhishek of Shri Krishna with the Milk of Kaamdheni cow of Swarga and water of Akash Ganga. After that Indra did stuti of Shri Krishna and gave him the name of 'Govind' and since then, Shri Krishna is also known as 'Shri Govind'. On Shri Govind Kund, there is a samadhi of Chatura Naga (Ardent Vaishnav Sevak of Shri Mahaprabhuji and Shri Gokulnathji). Bethakji of Shri Mahaprabhuji and Shri Gusaiji is located here. There is also a temple of Govind Bihariji nearby the Kund. While going towards Shri Girirajji from this place, the place where the Mukut-Topi of Shrinathji is located comes. The place where Shri Swaminiji wrote the 'ShriKrishnaPremamrutam' in the state of Separation from Krishna comes on the way to Shri Girirajji. One gets to do darshana of 14 Chadis of Shrinathji here. Also going further, there is a Sinduri Shila where rubbing the rocks produces red substance called Sindur. After that comes, Puchari

Puchari:

There is a Temple of 'Puchari Ka Lotha' in Puchari. This temple is of "Puchari Ka Lotha" named Gopa who is the Kshetradev of this village. One of the swaroopas of Shri

Girirajji is Go-Swaroop i.e. Cow. Thus the Mukharvind of Shri girirajji is at Mansiganga and the tail is at Puchari. During the Saraswat Kalp, when Lord Shri Krishna did Govardharan Leela, when Shri Krishna started to life Shri Girirajji at that time, One Gopa sat on the tail of the mountain and did not let Shri Krishna lift Shri girirajji. At that time, Shri Krishna praised that gopa and told that 'Friend! You are very brave and strong and I know your capabilities. So release the mountain and let me lift this to protect the Vrajvasis. I promise you that you would be worshipped at this place. After hearing these words of Shri Krishna, that gopa released that mountain.

Other leela places near to Puchari are

1. Apsara Kund and Apsara Bihariji Mandir
2. Naval Kund and Navalbihariji Mandir
3. Near the Navalkund, there is a cave of Ramdas Mukhiya
4. Chittaswami's Place
5. Dhuke Dauji Mandir
6. Surbhi Kund
7. Shri Govindswami's Kadamb Khandi
8. Sihasan Ghati
9. Kajal Shila
10. Airawat Kund
11. Charan Ghaati
12. Shri Krishnadas's Kup
13. Paramanandasji's place
14. Harji Kund
15. Harji Pokhar
16. Harji Kup



To be continued in the next Series. Shyamdhak, Jan-Ajan Vriksha and DaanGhati